

October 8, 2008

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EARL BECK BECK CONSTRUCTION, INC. Carole Wehle, Executive Director South Florida Water Management District 3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 2122

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Subject: Glades inland port presentation

Dear Ms. Wehle:

Attached is a copy of the presentation given by the Glades County Economic Development Council regarding the potential Moore Haven Inland Port Site that was given on Thursday, October 2, 2008. I am sorry you were not able to attend the meeting, but wanted to let you know how well attended and well received our message was.

The residents, officials and community activists of Glades County are excited about the opportunity for economic diversification in our region and the potential benefits of the inland port. The South Florida Inland Port has the possibility to create between 23,000 to 100,000 jobs and a state and local tax base from \$122 million to \$511 million for South Florida through the port and potential business that may cluster around the site. Please see the presentation for more information.

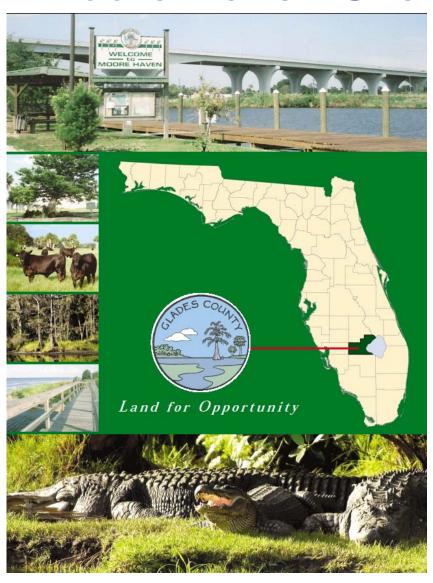
The Glades County Moore Haven site has the best attributes and location to realize the state's many goals for economic diversification, the Strategic Intermodal System and the environment. The site is centrally located with regard to Florida's seaports and airports and is in the center of the existing workforce of 100,000 in the FHREDI Heartland region. It is comprised of 1000 acres identified as a catalyst site owned by Lykes and 800 acres owned by Duda, with more than 7000 acres of additional surrounding land, including more than 3.7 linear miles of US 27 frontage and nearly five miles of rail to aid in the development of the inland port. The site also has fewer environmental issues and has been through much of the due diligence and preclearance review necessary for siting a project of this scope in a timely manner.

I appreciate your consideration of the project and look forward to hearing your comments on the attached presentation. I can be contacted at (863) 946-0300 or twhirls@gladescountyedc.com.

Sincerely,

Tracy Whirls **Executive Director**

South Florida Inland Port Moore Haven Site



What Is An Inland Port?

An inland port is a distribution site to provide opportunities to support intermodal transfers between ship, rail and truck operations, typically located in a rural setting where land costs and land uses are less restrictive. Inland ports must be centrally located to key markets and have efficient access to freight facilities which are over or near capacity.

The South Florida Inland Port (in the right location)

- Will be a statewide improvement
- Will connect five plus seaports and three international airports
- Will promote connectivity utilizing existing transportation network in early phases
- •Will improve rail efficiencies
- •Will relocate freight off of I-95 & Turnpike corridors
- •Will free up east coast rail for urban passengers'
- Will provide basis for sustainable and diversified economy for Florida, South Florida, and Heartland Region

South Florida Inland Port

Objective

- Facilitate and increase international trade in Florida by developing, operating and marketing a regional international trade processing center
- Provide for economic development regionally

Mission

- To expand the South Florida area's transportation and logistics industry
- To make it cheaper, faster, more efficient and secure for companies to move goods into, out of and through various Florida markets

Inland Port Components

- 3,500 Acres
- Warehouses, Distribution, Light Manufacturing
- Open Ground, Paved and Improved Storage
- Connectivity to existing and future Roadway Improvements
- Connectivity to existing and future Rail Improvements
- Secure Rail Interchange Facility



Moore Haven Site Attributes

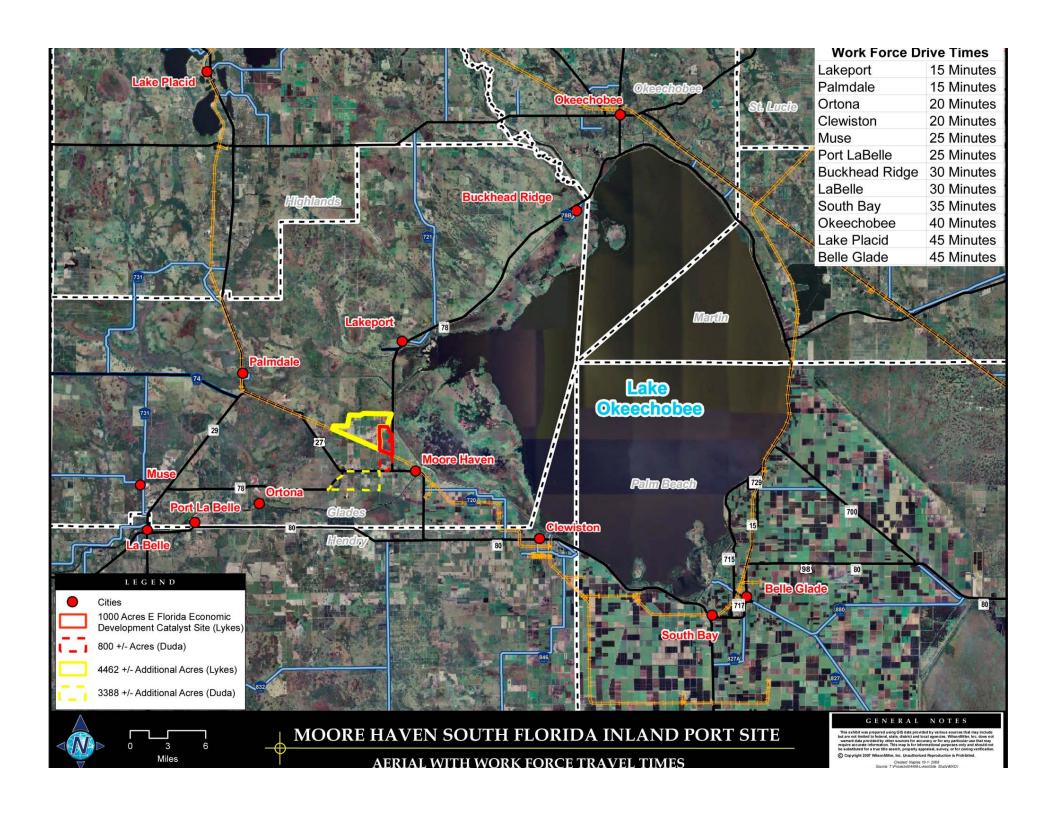
Central Location to Seaport and Airport Distances

_	Port of Palm Beach	78 Miles
_	Port Everglades	91 Miles
_	Port of Miami	124 Miles
_	Miami International	104 Miles
_	SW Florida International	71 Miles
_	Port Manatee	130 Miles
_	Tampa International	158 Miles

Easy Workforce Travel

	- ,		
_	Lakeport	15	Minutes
_	Palmdale	15	Minutes
_	Ortona	20	Minutes
_	Clewiston	20	Minutes
_	Muse	25	Minutes
_	Port LaBelle	25	Minutes
_	Buckhead Ridge	30	Minutes
_	LaBelle	30	Minutes
_	South Bay	35	Minutes
_	Okeechobee	40	Minutes
_	Lake Placid	45	Minutes
_	Belle Glade	45	Minutes





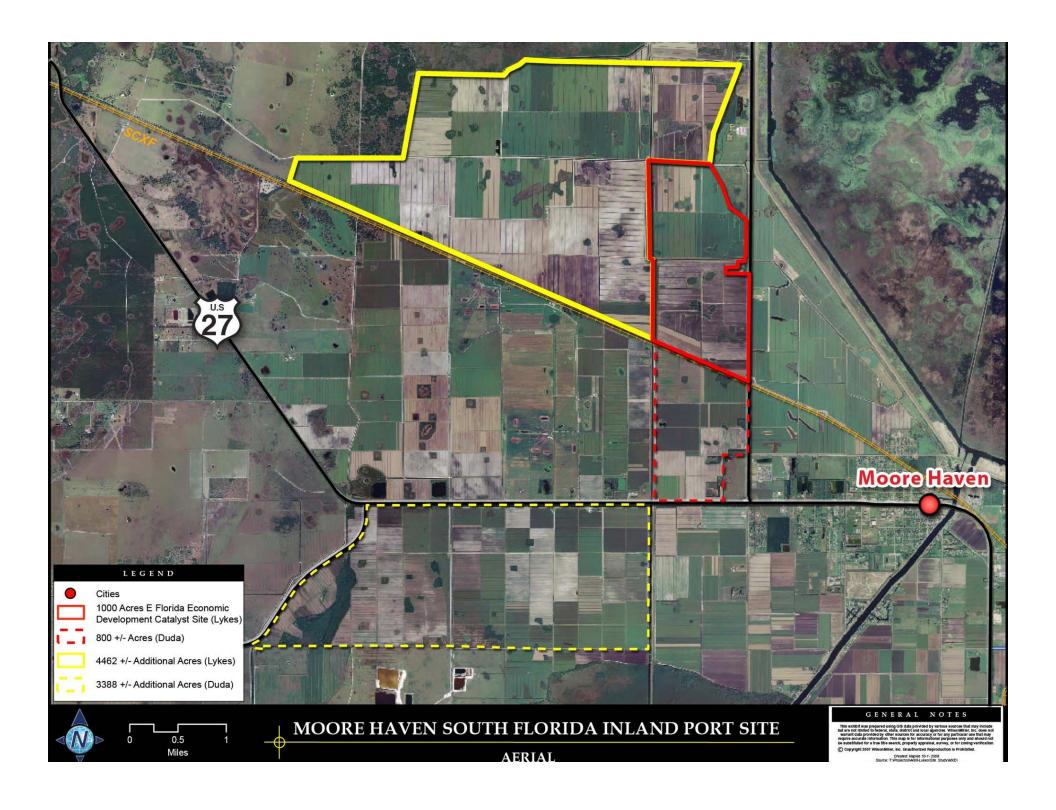
Moore Haven Site Attributes

Acreages

- 1,000 +/- acres EFlorida Economic Development Catalyst Site (Lykes)
- 800 +/- acres (Duda)
- 4,462 +/- additional acres (Lykes)
- 3,388 +/- additional acres (Duda)

Road and SCXF Rail Frontage

- SR78: 13,000 +/- lineal feet (2.5 miles)
- SR27: 19,200 +/- lineal feet (3.7 miles)
- Rail: 5,784 +/- lineal feet (0.7 miles) both sides
- Rail: 21,524 +/- lineal feet (4.1 miles) north side



Moore Haven Site is UNIQUE

- A suitable site with willing landowners that will make the site the most competitively priced of any other
- Superior connectivity directly on rail and current trucking routes (SR27, CR74, and SR 78)
- A central location that will provide broader and expanded economic diversification for the Heartland region
- A location that provides a pool of work force within existing communities in Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach counties (within a 45 minute drive time)
- Track record of county and city government and public support for economic development projects

Why is it Important to have the right location?

- Higher Probability that Inland Port will become a <u>Reality</u> and a <u>Success</u> due to:
 - Less Environmental Impact: keep it out of the Everglades flow way
 - Larger Workforce Pool: within the FHREDI region and a 45 minute drive time
 - User Friendliness to Carriers and other Corporate Users: Direct rail access and exceptional connectivity to current major trucking routes (SR27/CR74/SR78)
 - Expanded Economic Diversification Opportunity: enhanced opportunity for existing Enterprise Florida Economic Development Catalyst sites to attract new companies throughout the Heartland Region
 - The Economics as a Business Must Work: Lower cost will allow phasing and attract investors and industrial developers resulting in more money/funding for Design, Development, and Operation of the Inland Port over time

Why is it Important to have the right location?

Higher Probability that Inland Port will become a Reality and a Success due to:

– Broader Support:

- The Florida Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative region's
 - residents
 - businesses
 - governments
 - legislators
- Economic Development Councils throughout the Heartland region including:
 - Southwest Florida
- Seaports
- Airports
- Environmental and other non-governmental groups

A Properly Located Inland Port will help Realize all 5 State Intermodal System Goals

- 1. A safer more secure system for all
- 2. Effective preservation, efficient operation & management of transportation system
- 3. Increased mobility for people & freight with integration & connectivity across modes
- Enhanced economic competitiveness & diversification
- Enriched quality of life & environmental stewardship

Real Jobs for the Heartland

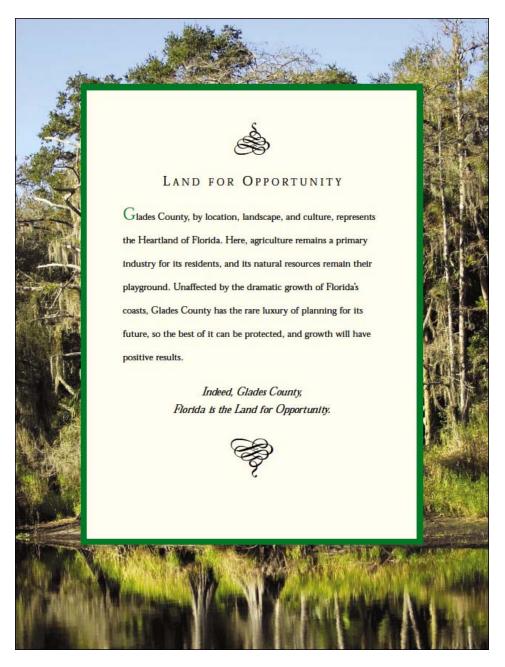
- Direct Construction, trucking, maintenance, warehouse, dispatch, management, parts, rail, heavy equipment operators & security
- Indirect-Business opportunities to support shippers, distributors, freight forwarders, manufacturers, restaurants, fueling, retail & vocational training.
- Numerous entry level and family wage, full time, year round jobs.
- Transportation jobs = higher level paying jobs.

Estimated Economic Enhancements due to the South Florida Inland Port

Low Scenario	2025
Total Jobs (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	23,858
Total Income (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	\$1,333,628,000
Business Revenue	\$866,301,000
Total Taxes (state and local)	\$122,694,000

Medium Scenario- Most Likely	2025
Total Jobs (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	64,983
Total Income (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	\$3,632,489,000
Business Revenue	\$2,359,601,000
Total Taxes (state and local)	\$334,189,000

High Scenario	2025	
Total Jobs (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	99,566	
Total Income (Direct, Induced, Indirect)	\$5,565,089,000	
Business Revenue	\$3,614,984,000	
Total Taxes (state and local)	\$511,988,000	



For more information contact Tracy Whirls, Glades County Economic Development Council: (863) 946-0300 or www.gladescountyedc.com